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HEADLINE: Schaefer's options include McDonald's
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BODY:

The interest in former Maryland governors seems unending.

(Given that the current governor spends much of his time out of the office campaigning for his 1998 re-election bid, interest in the exes is understandable.)

What Marvin Mandel is up to is always of note; and to a lesser degree, what Harry R. Hughes is into. The recently bust-ed Spiro T. Agnew drew some attention.

The current darling, however, is the state's most recent former governor, William Donald Schaefer.

At the moment, Mr. Schaefer is wrestling -- not well -- with retirement, and not sure whether he's going to run again for mayor of Baltimore. (At this point, all signs point to a no.)

But at 73, he is continuing to keep all his options open.

He is a visiting professor -- "whatever that means," he says -- at the University of Maryland and the Johns Hopkins University. He was a television commentator until he began weighing a mayoral bid. And he has an office at a Baltimore law firm.

Now, he is considering work at his favorite restaurant -- McDonald's.

The McGovernor stunned an audience attending a symposium on aging last week when he told them he had applied as a counterman at a McDonald's in Pasadena, not far from one of his homes.

"I want to go to work for McDonald's and clean a counter," he told the group at the Hopkins School of Continuing

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Studies.

"All the good ideas I had as mayor came from McDonald's," he said, referring to the elbows-on-the-table conversations he had with the real people of Baltimore way back when.

While Mr. Schaefer did pick up an application for a minimum-wage job, he has yet to file it.

He says he has not ruled out that possibility of becoming a counter wiper, french fryer or burger flipper. But what he really wants to do is persuade McDonald's management to hire 1,200 retirees in the fast-food stops statewide.

That, he said, has several benefits. It puts a talented work force back to work, puts steady employees in franchises that have difficulty keeping minimum-wage workers for long, and holds out hard work as a good thing to younger employees.

The company, he says, is mulling his proposal.

Spector announces slate

About two weeks ago, Baltimore City Councilwoman Rochelle "Rikki" Spector realized that this year's re-election bid for her 5th District seat was shaping up to be a solo effort.

Neither of her former Democratic running mates will be back as representatives of the 5th.

Vera P. Hall is running in the crowded field for president of the City Council, and Iris G. Reeves apparently has decided to retire.

Mrs. Spector said she had planned to run with Mrs. Reeves until "Iris gave me the bombshell" that she was going to sit out 1995. So she culled two running mates from the current crop of candidates and announced her slate last week. Neither of her new partners is a stranger to politics, and the name of the youngest on the slate is well known among the 5th District voters -- a huge benefit to the ticket.

Stephanie C. Rawlings, the 25-year-old daughter of Del. Howard P. "Pete" Rawlings, chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, is taking a run at one of the seats. Harry E. Smith Sr., a 64-year-old professor at Baltimore City Community College who resides in Ashburton, will round out the ticket.

The Rawlings-Smith-Spector alliance, as it will be known, "is a good marriage," the 58-year-old incumbent said.

The slate already has agreed not to endorse the top of the ticket -- mayor, City Council president and comptroller -- which could be wise in a heated primary.

Other candidates who have filed with the city election board for the three 5th District seats include Isaiah C. Fletcher Sr., Roland H. Holmes, Helen L. Holton, Ralph W. Jaffe and Michael Eugene Johnson. All are Democrats.

'Tribute to Taylor'

House Speaker Casper R. Taylor Jr. pulled in about \$ 200,000 last week at his second annual "Tribute to Taylor" fund-raiser in Baltimore.

Mr. Taylor, who is pushing hard in his recovery from heart bypass surgery in April, apparently is raising money to keep his options in 1998 open.

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CORRECTION:

The Political Game column in yesterday's editions of The Sun omitted a candidate running for a seat in Baltimore's 5th Councilmanic District. She is Michele Rosenberg, a Democrat.

The Sun regrets the error.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO 1, Spector; PHOTO 2, Rawlings; PHOTO 3, Smith

LOAD-DATE: June 23, 1995